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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

15 MAR 1993

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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MAR 24 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Bob Clement  
House of Representatives  
Longworth House Office Building  
Room 1230  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clement:

This is in reply to your letter of February 20, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

*Joseph A. Lawler*

Richard J. Shiben  
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division  
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures  
cc:

CNTL NO - 9300844

Copies rec'd  
ABODE

Chief, PR Bureau  
Chief, LM&M Division  
Docket Files, Room 222  
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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# Congressional

*DUE OBC: 3-8-93*

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM  
02/25/93

## LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300844	02/25/93	02/20/93	03/17/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Bob Clement	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/KM 3-1-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/25/93			

REMARKS:

BOB CLEMENT  
5TH DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

COMMITTEE ON  
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE



PRB  
235

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
552 U.S. COURTHOUSE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37203  
615-736-5295  
101 5TH AVENUE WEST

SD

Douglas C. Hopper  
2213 Crestline Drive  
Nashville, TN 37210

February 9, 1993

The Honorable Bob Clement  
United States Congress  
1230 Longworth Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Clement:

My son and I are both involved in building and flying radio controlled model airplanes. We are both active members of a local organization, The Murfreesboro Modelers, and are also members in the Academy of Model Aeronautics. My son and I have been engaged in the sport/hobby of radio control airplanes for about two years. Like other members of our organization, we have over a thousand dollars and hundreds of hours already invested in this sport. Some members of our organization have been involved in this sport for more than twenty years. Nationally, there are more than 150,000 individuals from all walks of life who are engaged in this activity.

I am writing to you to express my concern about proposed rules that are under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding (PR Docket 92-235; NPRM 11/6/92; FCC 92-469) jeopardizes our ability to pursue our pastime. Specifically, the proposed rule making will insert high power, mobile land communications channels in the limited, safety dictated spacings that exist between our current radio control channel allocations. Adoption of these proposed rules will result in either our inability to utilize more than 60% of the channels currently allocated for radio control purposes, or the use of those channels without regard to issues of physical safety and property damage.

Many radio control aircraft weigh in excess of 30 pounds and fly at speeds well above 40 miles per hour. Radio frequency interference of any kind causes a loss of control and the disastrous consequences that accompany an object of this size and weight falling out of the sky in an uncontrolled manner. Radio control transmitters are low power, limited range devices. Adjacent channel high power, long range transmission devices, as in the proposed rules, will overwhelm our radio control equipment and thereby causing loss of control. These problems are compounded by past experience with the Frequency Coordination system in the land mobile band. The efforts of local coordinators have been less than desirable with numerous examples of overlap and interference in the land mobile frequencies already allocated.

Only a couple of years ago, 1991, many radio control modelers were required to have their radio systems upgraded, or purchase new radio equipment, to operate on the current narrow frequency band. These radio upgrades and new radio systems were expensive. However, most modelers welcomed this change because it provided us with more channels in the 72-76 MHz band on which to operate our equipment. This proposed rule will make many of these upgraded and new radios unusable, and will severely limit our ability to participate in this recreational pastime. It will also require many members to purchase new radio equipment costing several hundred dollars to continue pursuit of this sport.

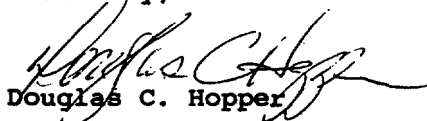
The entire problem created by these proposed rules is ridiculous in light of the fact that hundreds of frequencies are already unused in the areas of the spectrum reserved for government purposes. Many of these frequencies have been reserved for decades and have never been used by the government. Perhaps now is a good time for the government to release some of these frequencies, since it is obvious that they are not needed by the government, so that us private citizens, as well

The Honorable Bob Clement  
February 9, 1993  
Page 2

as the business community, can have access to radio equipment without unnecessary crowding of frequencies.

Please help my son and I, along with the 150,000 radio control enthusiasts, continue the safe enjoyment of our hobby by contacting the FCC (Staff Contact Doron Fertig (202)632-6497, or Eugene Thomson (202)632-2443) and expressing your displeasure with the proposed regulations, and encouraging the staff to eliminate the channel inserts in the 72-76 MHz band. The ending date for comments on the proposed rules is February 26, 1993. Your fellow Tennesseans thank you in advance for your efforts and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Douglas C. Hopper

February 1, 1993

SD

The Honorable Bob Clement  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

FEB 10 REC'D

Dear Congressman Clement,

I am a 44 year old lifetime Tennessee resident who spends many

number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weight as much as 30 or 40 pounds, and model race cars weigh from four to twenty pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often operate our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of Tennesseans like myself.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the model use bands.

Sincerely,

John W. Workman  
5505 Thalman Drive  
Brentwood, Tn 37027

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February 5, 1993

The Honorable Bob Clement  
US House of Reps.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am an active member in a local club whose nearly 100 members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

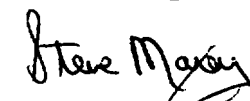
Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to ten feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Maxey".

Steve Maxey  
2122 Hwy 12 N.  
Ashland City, TN 37015

MILTON H. FANNING  
4936 DANBY DRIVE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37211-5122

SD

February 1, 1993

The Honorable Robert Clement  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Clement:

Since retiring almost nine years ago I have been able to devote more time to my hobby of building and flying model airplanes. This interest in model airplanes began over fifty years ago. My interest in radio controlled model airplanes has generated the interest and involvement of several of my friends in this hobby.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has issued proposed rule changes under PR Docket 92-235 that if adopted, would greatly reduce the usability of the frequencies currently assigned for model use. Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. Our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The FCC proposal would create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of operators and bystanders and protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

We modelers have considerable investments in our models and

SD

My name is David Bowman and I live in Nashville. For the past 20 years I have enjoyed a pastime that is gravely threatened by a proposed rule change now being considered by the FCC. Specifically I refer to my hobby of building and flying radio controlled model aircraft and the FCC proposal that would both severely limit my economic ability to continue it and greatly negatively affect the safety of any continued activities. I am an active competitor in both local and national events. I and thousands of others like me spend countless hours and many thousand of dollars, just like golfers and fisherman, in pursuit of this recreational activity. I am very interested in and concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 – 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wingspans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense